

Cam Gordon

City Council Member Second Ward

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Attention: If you want help translating this information in language other than Hmong, Spanish or Somali, call 311

Hmong - Ceeb toom. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-673-2800;

Spanish - Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llama 612-673-2700;

Somali - Ogow. Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 612-673-3500.

Council Member Cam Gordon's Report to Longfellow, 11-15-12

Cam's next Cooper/Seward Office Hours: Tuesday, November 28rd, 9:30-11:00am Birchwood Café, 3311 E 25th St

Items:

- 1) Voting on November 6
- 2) Constitutional Amendments Defeated
- 3) 2013 Budget
- 4) Mayor Nominates Harteau
- 5) Historic Conservation Districts
- 6) Asian Carp and the Upper Harbor Terminal
- 7) New Recycling System Rollout.
- 8) Climate Action Plan
- 9) New Airport Proposal
- 10) Openings on Boards and Commissions
- 1) Thanks to everyone in Ward 2 and Longfellow for voting on November 6. Turnout in Minneapolis was high and your participation in our democracy is vital to health of our city, state and country. Gratitude is also due to the many election judges and elections professionals that worked hard throughout a long day to ensure the best election possible. Many of the judges working yesterday are Seward residents. Many people waited in long lines in the cold and rain. I am sorry for any inconveniences and I thank you for patience, diligence, and determination to make your voice heard, as some residents had waits of an hour or even longer. Please know that the City is conducting full a review of this election and that there will be a report to the Elections Committee on December 3rd, including a precinct by precinct analysis of all polling place issues that will look at issues like long wait times, numbers of election judges per precinct, and space concerns.
- 2) I am very pleased that both of the constitutional amendments to ban same-sex marriage and require voters to have a photo ID failed yesterday. I'm proud that the City Council took a strong, unanimous stand against both amendments, and that the Second Ward voted so conclusively against them. 84% of Ward 2 residents voted against the marriage amendment, and 81% voted against the voter ID amendment.
- 3) Throughout October, the Ways and Means Committee has been reviewing the Mayor's proposed in budget at hearings where city departments report on how the budget will effect there plans and operations. The Mayor has proposed a 1.7% property tax increase, adding firefighters and police officers, and recommending a reorganization of the Regulatory Services department. Starting Saturday, November 10, the City is rebroadcasting all of the budget hearings on Minneapolis 79 every weekend until the budget is approved Wednesday December 12. You can also watch any of the budget hearings online here: http://www.minneapolismn.gov/tv/79schedule. The City Council will have two public meetings before a final budget is approved: Wednesday, Nov. 28, 6:05 p.m. and Wednesday, Dec. 12, 6:05 p.m. Both will be held at City Hall, 350 South 5th Street, in room 317 Visit http://www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget/WCMS1P-097420 for more information on the Mayor's recommended budget
- 4) The Mayor has formally nominated Janee Harteau to be the next Minneapolis Chief of Police. I know Ms. Harteau from her time as Inspector of the First Precinct (which includes Cedar Riverside) and have great respect for her. I will be interested to hear her plans for increasing police accountability and the diversity of the police force. The public hearing on this appointment will be held at the Public Safety, Civil Rights and Health committee on November 28 at 1:30pm
- 5) This summer I formally introduced a proposal to amend the City code to permit the creation of conservation districts in Minneapolis. Conservation Districts are a special category of historic district established by action of a local governmental body, like a

Historic Preservation Commission or a City Council. They typically help conserve important physical features and characteristics of an area with more protections than the zoning code, but fewer protections than an historic district. To assist with this we are forming an advisory group made up of staff, subject matter experts and some community representatives. So far the group is comprised key city staff as well as well as the MN State Historic Preservation Office, our Historic Preservation Commission. It also includes Greg Donofrio from University of MN School of Architecture, Robin Garwood, from the Ward 2 office and Ward 2 resident Joe Ring. The community process was formally kicked off with a community on Wednesday, November 14^{th.}

http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cped/conservation_district_ordinance.

- 6) I am working to start the 180-day clock for closing the City's Upper Harbor Terminal, a barge facility on the Mississippi in north Minneapolis that puts barges through the Saint Anthony Lock. I am fighting for this because I have come to believe that the City must do our part to help close the Saint Anthony Lock, because it is the last place that the invasive Asian Carp can be stopped before establishing themselves on the upper Mississippi and most of the rest of the waterways in Minnesota. While there may be some cost to the City, and while some jobs may be lost as a result of closing the Upper Harbor Terminal, these costs pale in comparison to the economic and ecological costs of letting this invasive species into the upper Mississippi. I authored a motion directing CPED staff to come back to the Community Development committee with more details on a plan to close the Upper Harbor Terminal, and will continue to push for starting the clock as soon as possible.
- 7) In November Minneapolis will begin rolling out one-sort recycling. It will be done in two phases with the first phases starting in November and the second early next year. Those who are part of the first phase will receive a letter with instructions and a new large 95 gallon blue cart. Routes and schedules will not change. Make sure to have your recycling at your collection point by 6 a.m. on your recycling day. You may keep your old bin for other uses or leave it at the curb or alley and city crews will recycle it. Since routes run street by street (and alley by alley) rather than by neighborhood or quadrant, the routes chosen for the first phase are all over the city. This is the most efficient way to roll out the new carts and keep your service high during the transition. For more information, visit www.minneapolismn.gov/onesort.
- 8) The City is updating our Climate Action Plan. The public is invited to two open houses to get feedback on draft recommendations that are now before the Climate Action Plan Steering Committee: 5-7 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 27 Powderhorn Park Community Center, 3400 15th Ave. S and 5:30-7:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 29 U of M Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC), 2001 Plymouth Ave. N. The draft recommendations and a short survey to collect feedback are available at www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate. The updated Plan will recommend new initiatives that could reduce pollution in transportation, land use, buildings and waste while furthering the City's goals for a healthy, growing and equitable community. While climate change is a global issue, local action can make a difference. Over the last 10 months, the City has worked with public, private and nonprofit partners and the community to update the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan. For more information on the Climate Action Plan update, future meeting dates and ways Minneapolis residents can get involved, go to www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate.
- 9) The Airport is considering a new navigation system that could expose some people to more noise. This system, called "Area Navigation" or "RNAV," puts planes on more precise routes and they fly the same routes continually. The hope is that by having planes take the most direct route possible there will be savings to fuel (and money) and reduced emissions. It is unclear to me how those who live beneath these routes will be affected. The City has been engaged in this process and concers appear to be growing related to reduce the number of sensitive land use overflights and insufficient community engagement regarding the tracks, so the residents were fully informed of the ramifications. The FAA wants to get the go-ahead from the Metropolitan Airport Commission by the end of November to proceed with the changes. The FAA seems to believe they don't need public input on this change and they are not seeking any. I am working with my colleagues on the Council to get more information about the environmental (including health) impacts of this proposal and a more meaningful engagement process. For more info and to voice your concerns contact the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC), 6040 28th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55450, publicaffairs@mspmac.org and visit http://www.stopmspflightpath.com/. MAC has the ability to conclude at their meeting on November 19th that the process thus far has not been adequate and that more should be done.
- **10)** There are more than 186 open positions on 24 boards and commissions that the City Council and Mayor will appoint this fall. The City is seeking applicants with a diversity of backgrounds and experiences to strengthen the work of the City. Boards/Commissions. For a full list of appointment opportunities and position descriptions visit http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/index.htm To apply, call (612) 673-3358 or email cityclerk@minneapolismn.gov.